Section Header	Description
Institution Name	Erikson Institute
Institution Characteristics	Private Graduate School, 230 FTE enrollment, 3 FTE library staff
CARLI Counts Participant Name + Job Title	Karen Janke, Library Director
Project Name/Title	Measuring the Impact of an Embedded Librarian on Retention in an Online Master's Program.
Single Sentence Abstract	The Erikson Institute Library is investigating using embedded librarians in a synchronous, online class in order to improve retention.
Motivation(s) for Project	In the first year of our online program in 2018-2019, there was a 20% dropout rate by the end of the first two semesters. Since retention can be influenced by student interactions with campus personnel and faculty and a feeling of community, we hope having a librarian available in a seminar will improve retention.
Partners and Stakeholders	Program Director and Seminar Faculty, Institutional research provides retention data
Inquiry Question	Will having a librarian present in a synchronous online class improve student retention?
Study Participants/Population	Graduate students in an online MS in Early Childhood Education program.
Method(s) of Data Collection and Analysis	The initial study features a librarian embedded in three seminars for 1 of the 6 tracks of an online degree program. The study will not be finished until after the Spring 2020 semester, but data is strictly quantitative, e.g. number of enrolled students at the beginning of the Fall 2019 semester and number who have dropped out of the program by the end of the Spring 2020 semester. The plan is also to compare the track with the embedded librarian to the other 5 tracks with no embedded librarian.
Findings	We are still collecting data.
Use of Findings	If the initial study shows an improvement in retention, we would seek to expand this model to all tracks in the program, provided we have the staffing to support this expansion.
Next Steps and Other Results	The second semester should see increased

	librarian involvement due to the curriculum starting to focus on the Capstone project that students must complete and a shift from relying on required course readings for assignments to student-directed research and literature searching.
Additional Reflections	Institutional data has been a challenge…there are inconsistencies in the student registration data, so data cleanup needs to occur to verify that students are placed in the correct degree track, and that students have indeed withdrawn from the program vs. some other type of absence, such as taking a semester off.
Timeline	Spring 2020: Additional visits from Librarian to seminars will take place April 2020: data analysis will occur when the Spring semester ends.
Bibliography/Works Cited	n/a
Appendices	n/a